

Project Name: *Write out the entire, specific name.*

Water Plan Update 2013 Finance Plan

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Project Objective Statement: *What must the project do? By When? Keep this statement to 25 words or less. Make it SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-based).*

Identify critical State and regional water, water quality, and flood planning and management and environmental stewardship investment priorities and recommend innovative, stable, equitable and fiscally-responsible financial strategies and revenue sources.

Project Background: *What is the primary motivation for this project? Include a brief high level description of the business area, the current situation, the desired situation, and the gaps that exist. This summary builds on your description in the Project Initiation form.*

Recent investments in California's natural resource management have provided for important improvements in state and regional water, water quality, flood management, and natural systems. However, funding variability and uncertainty are significant impediments to developing and implementing long-term plans and investment strategies. While funding has fluctuated, environmental and infrastructure investment needs continue to grow.

California Water Plan Update 2009 includes the following recommendation: "*California needs a water finance plan with stable, continuous funding from an array of revenue sources... The finance plan should recognize the critical role of public-private partnerships and the principle of beneficiary pays; include alternative revenue sources; and guide investment decisions based on sustainability indicators*". The Update 2013 Finance Plan will identify funding priorities and recommend financial strategies and revenue sources to support the implementation of this recommendation.

Estimated Start Date:	1/2011	Estimated End Date:	12/2013
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Project Deliverables: *What is the project going to produce? Create a list of tangible products that will result from project.*

A finance plan for investing in water management innovation and infrastructure in support of integrated water management and sustainability. A finance plan will be published in the 2013 Water Plan that will contain recommendations regarding funding priorities, existing and new financial strategies and revenue sources, as well as accountability and contingency measures.

- Estimate statewide and regional anticipated investment requirements through the year 2050
- Create multi-objective financial strategy based on Integrated Water Management principles which improves and expands both natural resource management and water infrastructure.
- Articulate objectives and benefits of recommended investments
- Offer strategies to improve governance and accountability of investments.

Project Scope:

In Scope: *List areas and functionality included in project.*

Investment: Recommend State government investment priorities and levels in innovation and infrastructure to advance integrated water management and to promote the implementation of actions having more sustainable outcomes. Recommend financial strategies and revenue sources based on IRWM principles, with close linkage between the source of revenues and the benefits received, and flexibility required to adapt to changing conditions and scientific knowledge. Potential innovation and infrastructure investments include:

Innovation: Implement new ideas, approaches and venues to improve existing processes, adapt to changing conditions, and leverage new opportunities.

- Governance improvements to promote more assurances and accountability as well as more integrated resources planning among local, State and federal agencies
- Planning/Public Process improvements to promote/incentivize communication, coordination and collaboration among water planners/managers, land use planners/decision-makers, and other resource managers at the regional and watershed scale (example -- IRWM)
- Information technology improvements to promote/incentivize water data collection, management, distribution, access, and exchange/sharing
- Research & Development to advance, improve and commercialize new water (and related energy) technologies (example -- CEC's PIER Program that focuses on climate change), and to develop analytical tools for integrated water management (example -- what SWAN is working on in partnership with colleges and universities and consulting firms)

Infrastructure: Regional projects, inter-regional and statewide water management projects that include, but are not limited to, the 27 resource management strategies published in Update 2009 (as revised in Update 2013).

- Regional projects included in IRWM Plans and/or its component plans
- Inter-regional projects that would benefit two or more regions.
- Statewide systems for water, flood, water quality, and wastewater management that provide public benefits